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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/568,779	02/21/2006	Jun Oki	45780116PUS1	5253
2252	7590	03/25/2008		
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH			EXAMINER	
PO BOX 747			CARR, DEBORAH D	
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1621	
NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE			
03/25/2008	ELECTRONIC			

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/568,779	<b>Applicant(s)</b> OKI ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b> Deborah D. Carr	<b>Art Unit</b> 1621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on *21 December 2007*.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/S/65/06)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed 21 December 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 USC§102 is maintained.
2. Applicant's arguments, see page 4, filed 21 December 2007, with respect to claims 1-3 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objection of claims 1-3 has been withdrawn.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-3 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP-08/217723.

Applicant's amending of the claims has not overcome the rejections of record. While JP560 & JP'513 may not anticipate the instant invention as amended, JP'723 still anticipates the instant invention.

Contrary to applicants assertions, JP'723 in fact teach the use of branched fatty acids, a polymerization degree ranging from 2 to 18, and an esterification degree ranging bet 60-90%. Specifically, JP'723 teaches a polymerization degree ranging from 7 to 15 more in

section [0006] and claim 1, branched fatty acids are taught in section [0007], and the esterification level is taught in section [0009] and example 1 in section [0011].

The declaration filed 21 December 2007 has been taken into consideration but is still not seen as convincing. Applicants have basically resubmitted the data contained in the application as originally file and taken into consideration. The basis of the declaration is the use of branched fatty acids and an esterification degree higher than 60%. Since JP'723 teaches branched fatty acids and an esterification level of higher than 60% the declaration does not overcome the rejection. Also it should be noted the reference is read in light of what it teaches one ordinary skill in the art and not the examples of specific embodiments. A reference isn't limited to its working examples, but must be evaluated for what it teaches one of ordinary skill in the art. JP'723 while exemplifying linear fatty acids teach branched fatty acids and linear fatty acids can be combined and used to produce a fatty acid ester polyglycerol that reads on the instant fatty acid ester polyglycerol.

Regarding applicant's argument pertaining to the properties of the instant compounds, a compound and its properties are inseparable. Therefore the compounds in JP'723 would also exhibit the same properties of the instant invention. Also JP'723 teaches they conventionally known in the art to be used in cosmetics and drugs.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Deborah D. Carr whose telephone number is 571-272-0637. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yvonne Eyler can be reached on 571-272-0871. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Deborah D Carr/  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1621

Ddc